



## Wine Tech Notes

### 2018 Syrah *McKINLEY SPRINGS VINEYARD*

9 barrels produced • 13.7% Alc by Vol.

#### Tasting Notes

We're going back to our roots with this release of McKinley Springs Block 11 Syrah. The Rhone variety foundations for Syncline started here in the Horse Heaven Hills. We originally met the growers in 1998 and began our 20 year saga of collaborative wine creation.

Nicknamed our espresso block, this site offers roasted coffee and chocolate flavors with opaque ruby color. Ripe berry aromas and baking spices layered with brilliant acidity have always kept this vineyard distinct from other Syrah sites in Washington. This boldly structured wine can be enjoyed now or cellared into 2028.



#### Harvest Notes

**Vineyard:** McKinley Springs  
**Appellation:** Horse Heaven Hills  
**Varietals:** 100% Syrah

#### Vineyard

“Block 11” Syrah typically ripens in the first weeks of September. Planted at 1,100 feet in elevation on Warden sandy silt loam soils with north south row orientation, the canopy is trained to Vertical Shoot Positioning with the west side left to “flop” to protect the grapes from the hot afternoon sun. Shoot thinning and green thinning occur to ensure an even intense crop. Perhaps it is the elevation, or the soils, but this vineyard gives us some of the best balanced fruit we work with.

#### Vinification

This fruit was hand harvested in the early morning of September 4th, then de-stemmed with the inclusion of 33% whole clusters into our new 34 HL Oak Upright tank. Fermentation occurred with native yeasts and twice daily pump-overs. Pressing occurred at dryness and the free run was barreled into neutral French oak barrels. Elevage lasted for 9 months, the wine was bottled in August 2019.